

Duvall Library Board Minutes, January 26, 2009

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. on January 26, 2009. Present were:
Library Board: Alan Butler, Don Barden, Denny Redman, Paige Denison, and Karen Wallin.

City of Duvall: Senior City Planner Lara Thomas

KCLS Duvall Library: Managing Librarian Laura Boyes

DCC/FOL: Sue. Juhre

River Current News: Reporter Carol Ladwig.

Public: David Mauk

Approval of Minutes - The minutes for the meeting held on November 24, 2008 were unanimously approved as distributed.

Old Business:

- ***South Duvall Village:*** City Planner Lara Thomas reviewed the progress to date on the very complex South Village development, of which the planned new library is a part. She said that the City had received applications from CamWest and Wonderland Holdings (a wholly-owned LLC of Washington Holdings-abbreviated here as WH) for a preliminary plat (with 6 phases), site plan and design review for Phase A –Residential Portion Only, and two boundary line adjustments. Lara said that the preliminary plat would allow the subdivision and sale of the property into residential lots. The application calls for development in several phases and not all at once. This will complicate planning and development for KCLS, as it appears that the 3rd Ave. extension would not be extended all the way to Big Rock Road in the first phase, of which the library is a part. This is critical for the library, as it is planned to be built on the corner of Big Rock Road and 3rd Ave., as extended. KCLS would have to apply for its own site plan, building permit, and would be responsible for all its sidewalks, curbs, gutters, storm water drainage, etc. Lara said that she spoke with Kay Johnson from KCLS about submitting its own permit applications in tandem with those of WH. Kay told her that KCLS was not ready to do that. From what Lara said, it appears that KCLS will not proceed until they have the site in their possession.

Lara said that the South Village project is the most complicated development project in the City's history. The City does not have phasing standards and therefore this is a new approach. She will use consultants to keep the process moving and on track. However, Lara noted that little progress had been made in resolving the list of "critical issues" that the City gave Washington Holdings in August. These issues reflect the City's planning vision and goals for both commercial and residential development. They must be resolved in order for the project to move ahead. Paige observed that WH did not address any of these issues in their preliminary plat application.

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Lara said that WH wants to reduce the already limited shared parking for the library, and that they are apparently using an “urban” model that includes public transit and other services and characteristics that exist in densely populated urban areas. She said that Duvall is not sufficiently developed and does not possess these urban services upon which that model depends. She pointed out that Copper Hill Square is only 30% occupied, but the parking lot is full (and cars are now parking along SR203). She said that the City has since changed its standards for parking, depending on the uses to which proposed buildings were to be put. For example, she said that a library and a restaurant are high use enterprises and needed much more parking than other kinds of activities. Don observed that KCLS had developed quite specific parking standards, based on long experience with inadequate parking, such as existed in Redmond for years after that library was built. Paige reiterated that the single largest complaint about libraries had to do with limited parking. The board was quite unanimous in its opposition to any reduction in parking, and would be monitoring it as the project moves along.

From what Lara said, it appears that the library is tied to the South Village project, which itself may be strongly affected by the severe downturn in development and construction in the State. Alan suggested that the existing library site or elsewhere along Main Street be re-considered. Despite all difficulties and obstacles that need to be overcome, Lara urged the board to take a “positive attitude,” adding that the process “will take time.”

- Laura Boyes happily observed that the Duvall Library circulation was up 11% in December, and up 13% from December 2007, despite the snow and floods. Part of this is attributable to the temporary closure of the Carnation library while a new one was being built, and part may be attributable to the economy; library use always goes up when the economy sours.

New Business: Laura said that the hours that Duvall gained during the construction of the Carnation Library were given back. There was some discussion how best to re-absorb those lost hours. Laura said that she will ask for more hours in her budget request.

Karen enthusiastically recounted her experience at the “Tech-Connect” fair at the Bellevue Regional Library on December 6, 2008. She got a tour of the automated book return apparatus, and said that KCLS staff explained many of the computer applications that are on their system, and they were available to work with patrons to show them how to conduct various search queries on the different applications. She explained the “micro surface” technology that allows a reader to select and read books on a flat-screen table surface. She thought it was very slick: all you do is scan the book’s bar code and it appears on the screen. The reader can “turn” pages, etc.

Other: Sue Juhre said that the Duvall Civic Club/Friends of the Library want to donate \$6,000 -- \$7,000 for art in the new library. Laura explained that it would have to be approved by the KCLS Art Selection Committee, which includes representatives from

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friends groups and the community. The committee is responsible for soliciting art for the libraries. She said that “add-on” art that is not part of the structure requires minimum lead time, but that “integrated art” requires much more lengthy lead time and must be incorporated in the library design process.

David Mauk of **Duvall Reads** said that the youth edition of Three Cups of Tea will be available for purchase in a day or two. Denny said that it will be available at Duvall Books.

Paige reminded the board that the grand opening to the public of the Carnation Library will be on Saturday, January 31, 2009, at 10:00.

Laura noted that the weekly Valley View does not list Duvall Library programming. Paige said that she will contact them.

Next Library Board Meeting: The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 23, 2009.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:46 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Don Barden